**HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET:**

* Read the text.
* Answer the questions.
* Mark your work, setting yourself a target. (Use the grade descriptors at the back of the booklet).
* Re-write a section of the work to meet the target.
* Remember, you will have two texts to read in the exam. There is only one for each section in this book to allow you to practice the skills you will need on each text.

**REVISION**

**PACK**

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TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Three-parent baby technique no more sinister than blood transfusion, says Robert Winston**

**Professor Robert Winston is backing a change in the law that would allow IVF babies to be born using the DNA of two mothers**

By [Sarah Knapton](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/journalists/sarah-knapton/), Science Editor 01 Feb 2015

The technique which allows babies to be born using the DNA of ‘three parents’ is no more sinister than a simple blood transfusion, fertility expert Professor Robert Winston has claimed.

On Tuesday, MPs will vote to amend the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 and legalise mitochondrial DNA transfer.

The procedure, which was developed by British scientists, allows IVF clinics to replace an egg's defective mitochondrial DNA with healthy DNA from a female donor, but its controversial because the baby will carry genetic material from ‘two mothers.’

Last week the Church of England said it could not support a change to legislation, arguing that scientists had not proved that the child would not inherit characteristics from the donor mother.

However Lord Winston, professor of science and society at Imperial College London and IVF pioneer, said he was fully behind the new law.

“Transfusing mitochondria is not unlike transfusing red blood cells in a case of severe anaemia – the main difference being that the mitochondrial treatments last into future generations,” he told *The Telegraph.*

“As an orthodox Jew, my religious tradition sees no objection to using science in this way.

“If mitochondrial treatments could prevent disease, this is to be celebrated as we are using the God-given intelligence afforded us.”

Research published last week suggested that around 2,500 women in Britain are a risk of transmitting defective mitochondrial DNA, which can cause diseases like muscular dystrophy, to their children.

If the new legislation is passed in the Commons this week it will be laid before the House of Lords on February 23rd. If successful, the first human trials could take place from October and the first babies born by Autumn 2016.

At least 60 MPs are already opposed to the new legislation and Conservative MP Fiona Bruce is expected call for the vote to be delayed until there is more evidence.

Some scientists believe that too little is known about the role of mitochondrial DNA and worry that a child’s characteristics could be altered by the procedure.

However Lord Winston added: “Altering the mitochondria will not change the colour of a baby’s hair or improve its strength and intelligence.

“We are not altering a child’s characteristics, nor enhancing humans in any way. The scientists are merely trying to ensure that a crippling and sometimes fatal disease is prevented and that future generations will not suffer this horrific sadness.

“Of course, there remains the issue of whether this treatment is completely safe. But we must remember that when the first IVF babies were born, we had no certainty that IVF was completely safe. “

Other scientists have also accused the Church of England of ignoring reams of scientific evidence, and the outcome of a public consultation which showed widespread support for the new ground-breaking IVF treatment.

Professor Lisa Jardine, of University College London and former Chair of Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority said: “Between 2011 and 2014, while I was its Chair, the HFEA was responsible for a carefully designed and thorough consultation on mitochondrial replacement — one of the most extensive and impressive public consultations ever conducted.

“The suggestion this week that mitochondrial replacement therapy has not been thoroughly reviewed, and that the move to legalise the process is over-hasty, beggars belief. “

However the Church of England said there were still ‘complex ethical issues’ regarding the procedure which had not been fully considered.

The Rev Dr Brendan McCarthy, the Church of England’s national adviser on medical ethics, said: “ “Changing the human germ-line represents an ethical watershed

“The Church has participated in the debate at every stage, making submissions to consultations run by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, the HFEA and the Department of Health as well as participating in relevant seminars and workshops.

“Our view, however, remains that we believe that the law should not be changed until there has been further scientific study and informed debate into the ethics, safety and efficacy of mitochondrial replacement therapy.”

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Give five reasons why using mitochondrial DNA could be beneficial. You **do not** have to use your own words for this task.

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1. Summarise why mitochondrial DNA may be beneficial in 200-250 words. Use your own words.

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1. Transform the article into an interview with Professor Robert Winston.

Remember to:

* Structure it like an interview.
* Base your interview heavily on what is implied in the text.
* Check your spelling, punctuation and grammar.

You can start your interview with:

Interviewer: Professor Winston, thank you for agreeing to meet with me.

Professor: My pleasure.

Interviewer: Professor Winston, why is everyone ‘up-in-arms’ about the issue of transferring mitochondrial DNA?

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**A trafficked penguin, a creepy talking doll and trench warfare – Happy Christmas 2014**

By [Charlie Brooker](http://www.theguardian.com/profile/charliebrooker)

The John Lewis and Sainsbury’s ads have kick-started an earlier-than-ever festive season in which we’ll shop or click our way to bankruptcy chasing 15% off the top Christmas products. But beware of My Friend Cayla …

Hey, remember when Christmas used to last 12 days? Now it’s so bloated it’s virtually an epoch, lasting twice as long as the year it falls in. The early-warning signs keep changing: not so long ago the start of the holiday season was signified by the release of the Christmas edition of the Radio Times. Now it’s the annual unveiling of [the John Lewis ad](http://www.theguardian.com/business/video/2014/nov/06/monty-penguin-john-lewis-christmas-advert-video), which this year features a boy arranging for a trafficked overseas bird to be smuggled into the country inside a small container and presented like a gift-wrapped object to the laddish penguin mate who exists only in his troubled mind. They say psychopathic murderers often start their “careers” by doing ghastly things to animals: hopefully they’ll keep the storyline going year after year, as his illusory brain-penguin commands him to carry out increasingly hideous yuletide ceremonies, until eventually the advert consists of nothing but him appeasing the Penguin King by dancing in the moonlight wearing a necklace of ears and eyeballs, all of it seen through the sights of a police marksman positioned on the roof of a neighbour’s evacuated home.

But this year, the John Lewis ad has been overshadowed by gargantuan supermarket and noted humanitarian anti-war campaigner J Sainsbury PLC, and its [tear-jerking period piece](http://www.theguardian.com/media/2014/nov/13/sainsburys-christmas-advert-recreates-first-world-war-truce) in which a perfectly good war is ruined by a tragic outbreak of football.

Shivering in a frosty trench – or “the frozen aisle”, in Sainsbury’s parlance – they pause to sing Silent Night, have a kickaround with their German counterparts, and bond over a chocolate bar. It’s all very poignant, if you mentally delete the bit where a supermarket logo hovers over the killing fields, which you can’t.

Boringly, the advert stops short of showing us the events of the following day, when war was resumed and they reverted to bayoneting one another in the face. Nectar points for each headshot, lads! Kill two Jerries, get one free!

Millions of young men were slaughtered during the first world war – “body-bagged for life”, in Sainsbury’s parlance – and doubtless as they lay dying in foreign fields, gazing down at what remained of their mud-caked, punctured, broken bodies, gasping their final agonised breaths, it would have been a great source of comfort for them to know their noble sacrifice would still be honoured a century later, in an advert for a shop.

Next year they’re doing the Sharpeville Massacre.

Advertising aside, another new Yuletide signifier is [“Black Friday”](http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/shortcuts/2014/nov/24/pass-notes-shopping-hell-week-black-friday-thanksgiving), a shopping tradition that began in the US and is now apparently “a thing” over here, at least according to press releases masquerading as news items. Every year, on the first Friday after Thanksgiving, hordes of deranged shoppers bite, kick and mutilate each other in a bid to get their hands on discounted consumer products. It’s like watching piranhas strip a cow down to its skeleton, but marginally less civilised. I used to think it would take a lot to make civil society break down completely – airborne Ebola, say, or a limited nuclear exchange. But no. In reality, the promise of 15% off a Transformers Stomp & Chomp dinosaur is enough to turn neighbour on neighbour in a bare-knuckle fight to the death. Of course, it’s possible the footage of brawling customers has been faked by online retailers, to encourage us to stay at home and click our way to bankruptcy instead. Wouldn’t be surprised.

This year, the [top Christmas products](http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2014/nov/05/dolls-spin-offs-and-blasters-the-toys-every-child-will-want-this-christmas) include My Friend Cayla, billed as “the world’s first internet-connected doll”, something humankind has been crying out for since the earliest days of the abacus. My Friend Cayla is several furlongs beyond nightmarish. Technology has taken a familiar horror movie staple – the self-aware talking doll that suddenly addresses you by name, even when you haven’t pulled its string – and made it a chilling reality.

Yes, Cayla is no ordinary talking doll. She “knows almost everything”, according to the jingle. That’s because she can Google things with her Bluetooth-enabled, computerised mind. She’s essentially Siri in the form of a plastic child, or, as the website puts it, “the doll you can talk to like a real friend!” – which is true, assuming your conversations with your real friends consist of you issuing basic commands and demanding answers to factual questions.

The promotional material shows children asking Cayla nothing more taxing than “How do I bake a cake?” or “What is the tallest animal?” No one uses her to Google medical symptoms or ask for the latest on Isis, although presumably you could, and the news would be all the more disturbing for being recounted by a cold, expressionless plastic child whose eyes and lips don’t even move. Come to think of it, put like that, I’ve just realised she’s the ideal newsreader.

She’s the ideal spy, too. The moment I saw her, I realised there was a chilling near-future horror script to be written about an internet-enabled talking doll that reports back on everything you and your family get up to, to the government, to retailers, and to random hackers in Belarus. So at least I’ve got a future Black Mirror episode out of it. Fingers crossed I can finish the fictional version before the 3D documentary adaptation is launched in our waking reality.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Give five things that Charlie does not like about Christmas adverts.

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1. Summarise what Charlie hates about the article in 200-250 words.

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1. Choose three phrases and PEAK about words that illustrate how Brooker feels about Christmas adverts.

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1. Transform the article into a letter to Charlie Brooker, persuading him that Christmas adverts are wonderful, and a vital part of Christmas.

You can start your letter with:

*Dear Mr Brooker.*

*I usually love your witty articles that poke fun at things that annoy you. However, your most recent article, I just can’t agree with.*

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**Subject Seven** by James A. Moore

Five years ago

Subject Seven

THE QUIET OF THE compound was almost complete. Three in the morning was always a time of silence. Almost everyone had gone home, and even the few that were still working tended to keep to themselves and whisper when they spoke. There was something about Subject Seven that made them want to be quiet.

Down in his cage, Subject Seven lay curled in a tight ball, his body aching from the latest batch of tests.

His skin was growing back. He'd almost healed, and the pain had become manageable. That was good because he was finished with the compound, whether or not his keepers knew it.

Seven had learned something new, you see, something that changed everything about his world. He had learned about his Other.

He opened his eyes and listened carefully, though there was almost nothing to hear. The steady beeping of his heart monitor was the only constant in his world. They seldom spoke to him.

When they did, it was to ask him if something hurt, or if they were feeling particularly ambitious, they'd ask him to explain the pain. He bared his teeth and heard his pulse rate increase on the monitor. What does it feel like to have your skin peeled back, Seven? Does it hurt when we touch your exposed nerves with these electric probes?

The room was ten feet wide, ten feet long, and seven feet high. Three cameras watched him. He couldn't even urinate without someone watching and recording every action.

The Other could, of course. The Other was given everything he wanted. When he was hungry, he ate; when he was bored, he watched television—and he had people to talk to who were nice and gentle and gave him a soft bed to sleep in. Just thinking about the Other made him angry. He hated the Other even more than he hated the ones who tortured him. The Other lived in a wonderful world, far above the compound where Seven was made to live.

That was about to change.

One deep breath to calm himself. He heard his pulse slow down.

He closed his eyes, focused himself, and then pulled the sensor tabs from his flesh. He once heard someone say that his sensors had been inserted "subcutaneously." He'd asked what that word meant and the tech had pointed to his sensors and explained that meant they'd been implanted under his skin, just as they had been with all of the subjects.

Good to know. He liked learning new things.

He winced as the sensors ripped free and left bleeding wounds on his flesh. The heart monitor went crazy a second later, beeping frantically to let him know that his heart had stopped. He reached up and swatted the closest camera. It shattered and the broken glass from the lens drew still more blood.

The heart monitor stopped beeping when he used the heavy base to shatter the other two cameras. Then the sirens started sounding and ruined whatever rest anyone at the facility might have been getting.

His room was almost indestructible. So instead of trying to punch his way through the solid concrete above his head, he reached up and pulled himself into a corner of the ceiling, his arms and legs straining hard as he braced himself. His muscles shook but held as he stared down at the doorway and waited patiently.

Two minutes and seventeen seconds passed before Dirk opened the door. Dirk was massive. He was six feet, seven inches in height with the physique of a bodybuilder. He was one of the few who could subdue Subject Seven. Seven knew all about Dirk's combat training and time in the marines. Dirk liked to brag about what he'd accomplished in his life, especially when he was dragging Seven back to his room after the latest batch of experiments, before the sedatives wore off.

Sometimes, just to make sure that Seven knew who was in charge, he'd punch Seven in the stomach or slam his "riot stick" across Seven's temple and drop him to his knees. He always told Seven why, too. He'd look right at Seven, shake his head and smile and say, "That's just to let you know who the boss is, you little scum-bag."

Seven waited until Dirk looked around the room and then raised his eyes toward the ceiling before he dropped down on top of him. Dirk was wearing his security outfit and his hand was reaching for the rubber-coated metal club he called his "riot stick" when Seven landed.

"You lost your mind, kid? What the hell are you doing?" Dirk's voice was not as calm as it usually was. He sounded like he wanted to scream, wanted to cry, but was trying to hide his fear.

Sometimes Seven talked to his captors, but never to Dirk. He didn't feel any reason to change that agenda now. Instead he opened his mouth and lunged, his teeth tearing into the meat of Dirk's neck and shoulder.

The guard screamed then, a loud, shrill wail of panic almost as braying as the alarm sirens that were still shrieking away.

Dirk pulled his club free from the holster. Seven reached out, capturing the hand and the club alike. He pulled as hard as he could and Dirk resisted, fought back until Seven bit down again, this time on his face.

The blood was hot, salty and thick as it spilled into his mouth and painted a beard over his lower face. Dirk screamed again and thrashed under him, and for the first time in his life, Seven smiled.

Dirk let go of the club to cover his wounded neck and face with his hands. It was instinct, really, an attempt to stop the pain from getting any worse. Seven snorted past the blood covering his mouth and nose—the closest he'd ever come to laughter—and swung the club around in a brutal arc. His first blow cracked the side of Dirk's skull like an egg. The second swing spilled out what passed for a yolk in Dirk's shell.

Dirk stopped moving, stopped screaming, stopped living.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Give five things that Subject Seven tells us about ‘The Other’.

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1. Summarise the conditions of, and how Subject Seven feels about ‘The Other’, in 200-250 words.

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1. Identify and PEAK about three phrases that suggest that Subject Seven is suffering.

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1. Imagine that you are Subject Seven. You have managed to find a piece of paper and a pencil in your cell. Write a diary entry as Seven. Include:

* Your experiences in the cell.
* Infer how you ended up there.
* Include your thoughts and feelings.

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**GRADE DESCRIPTORS TO USE FOR MARKING**

* **Grade 3-4:** You have organised your writing in the appropriate way for the task. You make simple points and explain some of them in detail. Your writing is simple and there may be errors in punctuation and spelling. You have used full stops, capital letters, commas and exclamation marks. I have included some of the points in my summary.
* **Grade 5-6:** You explain more ideas in detail. Your tone is appropriate for the task; you have inferred detail from the text you have read. Sentences are correct although relatively simple, vocabulary is simple but spelling is correct. You begin to use more ambitious vocabulary. You have used commas, full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks and semi colons. I have included over half the points in my summary.
* **Grade 7-9:** All of the above PLUS you use and develop several ideas. Your tone is mature. Sentences are well structured and you use the full range of punctuation. Structure is good and there is a logical flow to the piece. You have used a variety of sentence lengths, and used full stops, capital letters, commas, semi colons, exclamation marks, ellipses, brackets and question marks. I have included all of the points in my summary.